



south dakota
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Learning. Leadership. Service.

Nonfood Rewards in the Classroom

Nonfood rewards promote a healthier environment by encouraging healthy eating habits. Food becomes a primary motivator in students' lives when they are given pop, candy and other sweets as a reward for good behavior and academic achievement. Because these foods have little nutritional value, using them as rewards contributes to poor eating habits.

For more information

Child and Adult Nutrition Services
800 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501-2235
Phone: (605) 773-3413
Fax: (605) 773-6846
doe.sd.gov/oess/cans/



Nonfood reward ideas

Elementary School

- Stickers or bookmarks
- Pencils, pens and markers
- Books
- Trinkets (magnets, frisbees, etc.)
- Activity/game sheets
- Game time
- Reading time
- Extra recess
- Extra art time
- Walk with the principal

Middle School

- Sit with friends
- Listen to music while working
- Talk time at the end of class
- Reduced homework
- “No Homework” pass
- Fun video
- Assemblies
- Computer time
- Brainteasers
- Field trip

High School

- Coupons or gift certificates
- Listen to music while working
- Have class outside
- Books
- Reduced homework
- “No Homework” pass
- Extra credit
- Assemblies
- Drawing for donated prizes

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